

Supplemental Preliminary Amendment

Preliminary to the examination of the above-captioned application, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1 and 22 with the following clean set of amended claims 1 and 22.

al ^{sub B3} 1. (Amended) A method to enhance bone formation in a vertebrate animal, which method comprises administering to a vertebrate subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound that inhibits proteasomal activity or that inhibits production of proteasome proteins wherein the compound does not inhibit the isoprenoid pathway.

al 22. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is characterized by a condition selected from the group consisting of osteoporosis, bone fracture or deficiency, primary or secondary hyperparathyroidism, metastatic bone disease, osteolytic bone disease, and post-plastic surgery.

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-24 will be pending. Claims 1 and 22 are amended to address the issue of the election of species requirement raised by the Examiner. Support for amended claims can be found throughout the application. Therefore, the above-described amendments do not introduce any new matter into the present application.

In the Response to the Restriction Requirement, filed 12/17/01, Applicants requested that based on the provided considerations the election of group I be extended to group IV as well. The Examiner's clarification on the matter would be greatly appreciated.